THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

Proposals from Chhattisgarh

1116. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals pending for approval in his Ministry from the State of Chhattisgarh till December 31, 2008 and since when they have been pending;

(b) the details of the pending proposals and the reasons for delay in their approval;

(c) whether Government would issue any guidelines to settle the proposals especially those related with energy; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) According to information received, there is no proposal pending with Ministry of Planning, Government of India.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Base to assess the poverty line

†1117. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the consumption in calories is considered as a base to assess the poverty line in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether different institutes have mentioned different amount of calorie consumption for hardworking people;

(d) if so, the criteria in this regard, institute-wise; and

(e) the criteria accepted by Government and the ground thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) The Planning Commission uses a poverty line based on per capita consumption expenditure of Rs. 49.09 per month in rural areas and Rs. 56.64 per month in urban areas at

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1973-74 prices at national level. This corresponds to a basket of goods and services anchored on a norm of *per capita* daily calorie requirement of 2400 kcal in rural areas and 2100 kcal in urban areas. The state-specific poverty lines are derived from the national level poverty lines, using state-specific price indices and inter-state price differential.

(c) Planning Commission is not aware of any institute mentioning the amount of calorie consumption for hardworking people.

(d) and (e) In view of (c) above, do not arise.

Estimates of poor and BPL

1118. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the estimates of poor and BPL families by the end of the Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-2012) and the projected percentage with reference to our population in 2012;

(b) the similar percentage position by the end of the First Five Year Plan (April, 1951-March, 1956); and

(c) whether any poverty alleviation targets have been fixed in the planning profile and the time-frame by when these would be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) As per the latest available estimates made by the Planning Commission, 27.5% of the population lived below the poverty line in 2004-05. The Eleventh Plan has projected 10 percentage points reduction in the head-count ratio of consumption poverty by the end of Eleventh Plan (2007-2012). No projections of BPL families by the end of the Eleventh Plan are available.

(b) No comparable estimates from official agencies are available regarding the percentage of persons living below the poverty line or BPL families at the end of the First Five Year Plan (April, 1951-March, 1956).

(c) The Eleventh Plan has projected 10 percentage points reduction in the head-count ratio of consumption poverty by the end of Eleventh Plan (2007-2012).

BPL segment of population

1119. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:
DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the below poverty line segment of population is assessed on the basis of calorie intake or per capita income of the families;

(b) if so, the latest NSSO survey estimate of the BPL families as on 31st December, 2007;

(c) whether there is any different yardstick for classifying BPL families in rural and urban areas; and